

Alexander Grant House  
Salem City, Salem County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer  
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

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Alexander Grant House  
Salem City, Salem County, New Jersey

Owner: Salem County Historical Society

Date of Erection: 1721

Architect:

Builder: Alexander Grant

Present Condition: Excellent

Number of Stories: Two and one-half

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - brick

Interior walls - plaster, chair  
rail

Inside chimney

Roof - pitch with dormers, wood  
shingles

Historical Data:

The house was built by Alexander Grant in 1721. It has been altered somewhat, but is materially the same as when constructed. It was originally built with a higher part and wing. The wing ended at the archway on the south (which is now gone); where the passage now is, was a broad lane leading to the back. The pent roof is the same; the piazza was wider; over the front door of the main building was an old-fashioned pent roof.

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Alexander Grant appeared in Salem in 1700. He is supposed to have come from Somersetshire. He assisted in establishing the Episcopal Church in Salem; he became a Justice of the Courts in 1716 and was appointed one of the Justices of a special court held in Salem in 1717 for trying negro slaves for the murder of James Sherron. With William Hall he was associated in the mercantile business; they traded with the Barbados, New York, and Boston.

The house remained for two hundred years in the possession of the Grant family and their relatives. In 1921 it was bequeathed by a descendant of Alexander Grant, Miss Helena Hubbell, to the Historical Society.

About a hundred years ago it was used as an inn under the name of The Temperance House.

Today it houses one of the best antique museums in the country. Here are to be found relics of Fenwick's Colony.

#### Bibliography:

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Clayton, Mary local historian

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Rev. Aug. 26 '36 T.W.